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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **KONINKLIJKE PHILIPS ELECTRONICS N.V.** [NL/NL];  
Groenewoudseweg 1, NL-5621 BA Eindhoven (NL).

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): **PAUWS, Steffen, C.**  
[NL/NL]; c/o Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL).

(74) Agents: **SLENDERS, Petrus, J., W. et al.**; Prof. Holstlaan  
6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL).

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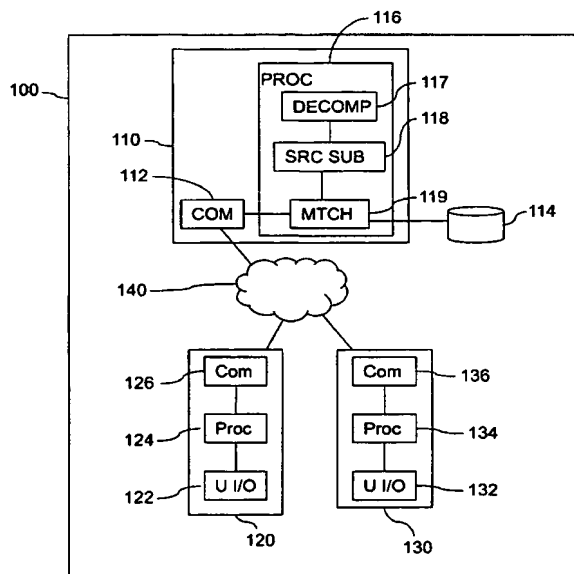
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(54) Title: **SEARCHING IN A MELODY DATABASE**



(57) Abstract: A system for searching for a query string, that represents an audio fragment, in a melody database (114) includes an input (122, 132) for receiving the query string from a user. The melody database (114) stores respective representations of plurality of audio fragments. A processor (116) is used to decompose (117) the query string into a sequence of a plurality of query sub-strings. Each sub-string is independently searched (118) in the database for at least a respective closest match for the sub-string. In dependence on the search results for the respective sub-strings, a closest match for the query string is determined (119).



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